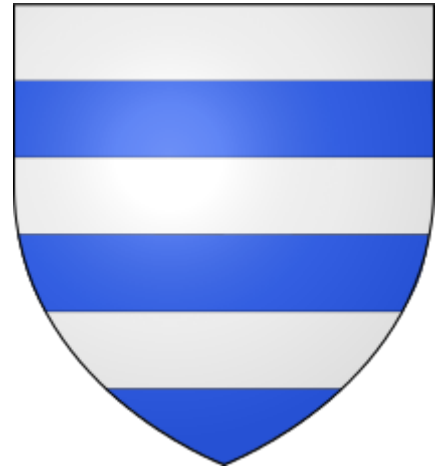


Henry de Grey

Sir Henry de Grey of Grays Thurrock, Essex (1155–1219) was a favourite courtier of King John of England.



Arms of Grey: Barry of six Argent and Azure

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Family

Sir Henry was the son of John de Grey^[1] (born Thurrock, Essex, c. 1140 and married c. 1157) and probably a great-grandson of Anchetil de Greye (b. circa 1100) of Rotherfield Greys, a grandson of Domesday baron Anchetil de Greye (c. 1052 – 1086+). Sir Henry was the progenitor of the considerable number of noble houses bearing the name Grey or Gray; Sir Henry's descendants in the direct male line went on to be ennobled with no less than eighteen peerages, including eleven substantive baronies, a viscountcy, four earldoms (Kent, Tankerville, Stamford and Grey), a marquessate and two dukedoms. Sir Henry's descendants through the female line are countless but include the Barons Audley, Barons Revelstoke, Barons Northbrook, Barons Howick, Barons Dacre, Barons Willoughby de Eresby, Earl of Lindsey, the Earls of Malmesbury, Earls of Westmoreland, Earls of Essex, Earls of Durham, Earls of Cromer, Earls of Elgin, Earls of Bridgewater, the Earls of Ashburnham, the Marquesses of Lindsey and the Dukes of Somerset, the Dukes of Ancaster, and the Aga Khans, amongst many others.

Life

In 1195 he had been granted the Manor of Thurrock in Essex which later became known as Grays Thurrock (or simply Grays), which he bought from Isaac the Jew and his son Josce. To commemorate this connection, on 11 June 2013 (the 808th anniversary of the charter), a green Thurrock heritage plaque was unveiled to de Grey.^[2] Before 1201 he was also granted the Manor of Codnor, Derbyshire, and in 1216 was also granted by King Henry III of England the Manor of Grimston in Nottinghamshire.

Marriage and issue

Around 1199 he married at Thurrock, Essex Isolda Bardolf (Hoo, Kent, c. 1168 - bef. 18 June 1246), also known as Iseaude, sister and co-heiress of Robert Bardolf of Codnor in Derbyshire, and daughter of Hugh Bardolf of Codnor, Derbyshire (son of Hugo Bardol, born in 1125), and Isobel Aquillion, by whom he had these sons:

- Sir Richard de Grey of Codnor Derbyshire, ancestor of the Barons Grey of Codnor

- Sir John de Grey of Shirland Derbyshire, ancestor of the Barons Grey of Wilton and Barons Grey of Ruthyn,^[3] and through the Ruthyn Greys he was ancestor of John Grey of Groby, the first husband of Elizabeth Woodville, who later married Edward IV. In this connection, Sir John was the ancestor of the Viscounts Lisle, the Grey Marquesses of Dorset and of Lady Jane Grey. It is from Sir John's descendants the Greys of Wilton that Gray's Inn takes its name.
- William de Grey of Cavendish, Suffolk, of Landford, Nottinghamshire and of Sandiacre, Derbyshire, ancestor of the Greys of Merton, Norfolk and a remote ancestor of the Barons Walsingham
- Robert de Grey, ancestor of the Barons Grey of Rotherfield
- Henry de Grey
- Hugh de Grey (born Chillingham, Northumberland, c. 1203), father of John de Grey, born in Scotland, and grandfather of Thomas de Grey of Heton (Heton, Northumberland, circa 1266 - Angus, Scotland, 1310), whose son Thomas (circa 1297 - bef. 12 March 1343/1344) was father of Thomas de Grey The Chronicler who was taken prisoner by the Scots at Bannockburn and who was the ancestor of all three creations of the Earls of Tankerville, and the Earls Grey
- unknown de Grey, father of Eve de Grey who married Walter Beke of Eresby Lincolnshire and was ancestor of the Barons Willoughby de Eresby
- Walter de Grey, Archbishop of York 1216-1255

After his death his widow remarried Reynold de Meurdre.

Sources

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Notes

1. "The Peerage of England Vol2" (<https://books.google.com/books?id=P15AAAAAYAAJ&lpg=PA4&ots=M8o0ggOz5M&dq=Robert%20%22of%20Cornwell%22%20Grey&pg=PA4#v=onepage&q&f=false>).
2. Your Thurrock (<http://www.yourthurrock.com/2013/06/14/commemorating-the-norman-knight-henry-de-grey/>)
3. <https://play.google.com/books/reader?id=aB0IAAAQAAJ&printsec=frontcover&output=reader&authuser=0&hl=en&pg=GBS.PA230>

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